

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application. In response to the office action, applicants have amended claims 1, 5-7, 11-13, and 17-18. Claims 1-20 remain pending for reconsideration.

Claims 1-3, 7-9, and 13-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,796,370 (Doll). Applicants have amended each of independent claims 1, 7, and 13 to include the recitations of claims 6, 12, and 18, respectively. According, this rejection is overcome.

Claims 4-6, 10-12, and 16-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Doll in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,650,542 (Chrysler). The recitations of claims 6, 12, and 18 have been written into independent claims 1, 7, and 13, respectively. Applicants have provided a Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 to remove the Chrysler patent as a reference. Accordingly, this rejection is overcome.

Applicants note that rather than canceling claims 5-6, 11-12, and 17-18, applicants have amended these claims to recite features which are believed to be absent from the Doll reference.

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In view of the foregoing, the application is considered to be in condition for allowance. Early notification of the same is earnestly solicited. If there are any questions regarding the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

/Paul E. Steiner/

Paul E. Steiner
Reg. No. 41,326
(703) 633 - 6830

Intel Americas, Inc.
LF3
4030 Lafayette Center Drive
Chantilly, VA 20151

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Cathy Dikes

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